

ZPW

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takeshi SAKAMOTO et al.

Group Art Unit: 1753

Application No.: 10/788,464

Examiner: E. WONG

Filed: March 1, 2004

Docket No.: 118870

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING RARE-EARTH MAGNET, AND PLATING
BATH

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the June 22, 2006 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks. Claims 1-16 are pending in this application.

The Office Action rejects claims 11-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Jozefowicz (U.S. Patent No. 5,167,793); and rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Du Rose (U.S. Patent No. 3,183,067) in view of Hamamura (U.S. Patent No. 4,959,273) and further in view of Lowenheim ("Electroplating," © 1978, pp. 212-213). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants assert that Jozefowicz, Du Rose, Hamamura, and Lowenheim, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest a plating bath including at least a nickel source, wherein the concentration of the nickel source is 0.3 mol/l to 0.7 mol/l on a nickel atom basis, and wherein the conductivity of the plating bath is 80 mS/cm or over, as recited in independent claims 1, 9, 11, and 16.